

Again, others think that some who are no *Mahometans* (at least they are not such professedly) may be faulted; 'tis too well known, and it can't be conceal'd, how the Christians themselves that are in the Ship (the more is the pity) are not all of a mind. There are many that don't very well like the mode of Worship we have aboard; they say that several of our Religious usages are borrowed from the *Mahometans*, this is the sentiment of some of our Officers, and of a great, if not the greater number of the Sailors; this dissent of theirs doth greatly enrage the other party, for this they stigmatize them, and sometimes severely handle them, which they may do by the Orders of the Ship. One would think our common danger should induce us to use more moderation. And standers-by that are not so deeply concern'd and engag'd in a party, do think the petty differences amongst us are capable of an accommodation, and the rather because both sides agree in the main. Only there are a few half-witted and hare-brain'd bigots that blow up the coals. Nay, there are some that are not ashamed to declare, they would rather be *Mahometans* than Christian dissenters; which it may be is truly enough spoken for that they are *Semi-Mahometans* already; they are these mungril-Christians that do us the greatest mischief; if we ever be destroy'd, 'twill be by the wild-fire of these men. These be they that dissuade the *Captain* from calling his Council together; fearing possibly lest they should make some alteration in the present Orders of the Ship in favour of the dissenting party; which they may be the more inclin'd to do, for as much as they find them to be very faithful to the interest of Christianity, and most forward (upon all occasions) for the Ships welfare and safety. They see also that the severities they have for sometime been under, have not had their intended effect, in as much as they are increas'd and not diminish'd thereby. Some of these Phreneticks (for so they may be call'd) are often buzzing the *Captain* in the ear with the rude carriage of a Council of Officers in his Fathers days. It happen'd, as you have probably heard, that his Father had a contest with his Council, and from words they fell to blows, and in the scuffle the good old *Captain* was kill'd and thrown overboard; this unhappy and unheard of Tragedy, is ever now and then ript up to alienate the present *Captain* from his Council; though we all know the now Council hath not the same power, nor doth it consist of the same persons. I believe they are a company of as honest men as ever used the Sea; and on my conscience they have that respect and honour for the *Captain*, that they would hazard their All for his safety and preservation. And if he would but be advised by them, he might be as happy a man as ever commanded a Ship. If in his Conduct he should have been any ways tardy or deficient, they would take no notice of it. For 'tis a Maxim amongst them, That though his Officers may, yet the *Captain* himself can't do amiss.

S I R,

*Tours to serve You, &c.*

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Printed, and are to be Sold by Richard Janeway in Queens-head-Alley in Pater-Noster-Row. 1680.



*From a-board the Van Herring.*

**THE  
ANSWER  
TO THE  
LETTER from LEGORN  
Answered:**

*In a Third Letter to a Merchant in London.*

**SIR,**  
**S**INCE my Last, I have somewhat to communicate to you, more than what formerly I sent you: And knowing you to be a Person of Trust and Integrity, and withall desirous to know how Squares goe, to the Intent you may assist us in all Lawfull wayes (if occasion presents) I am willing to give you this farther satisfaction.

**SIR,**  
Not to Trouble you with Prolixities or a vain Rehearsal of my former Letter: Let me farther acquaint you, That since my last, Our Royal Captains Son was entertain'd by several Persons (of no small repnte or Quality in the Ship) and that in the great Cabin, with an Extraordinary entertainment; To give you a full Relation whereof, thus it was:



Upon occasion of an Extraordinary, or rather Customary Solemnity (in respect it hapneth annually aboard our ship) Our Captaines Son was thought fit to be invited to the Entertainment, which accordingly was done with the mature Deliberation and Advice of the Principal Officers, at whose Charge this Customary Solemnity was to be defrayed: It seems our Captains Son was so modest at the first Invitation as to give a refusal to the same, shewing them several reasons to justify his absence: but being over importuned he came out of his Cabbin *incognito*, to avoid those Acclamations the Marriners were accustomed to Salute him withal: but it seems his Privacy was discovered, and the whole Company rang him such a Peal as he went, that he was forced to clap both his Hands on his ears, and desire them to forbear. This it seems is (since come to our Lieutenants ears, who though he knows not which way to help himself, yet storms like wild, but the honest Marriner takes so little Notice of the same, that it is e'n indifferent whether he be pacified or not.

Sir. The night after this entertainment happened an occasional accident worth your serious remark: which was this, There was a kind of a buzzing about the Ship, That a certain *Mahometan* a-board had a parcel of Arms in his Cabbin, with which he designed to do the Ships company a mischief, if occasion served: but upon notice thereof given to our Captain he issued out an exprels Order to search for the same, (as indeed all the Ships company know him to be a person extraordinary careful in such Cases.) The person ordered to make search was reputed an honest Quarteer; but whither for gain or otherwise, I cannot say, He had no sooner received his Order: but contrary to the same, gave private notice to him, That next Morning he must make a strickt search for Arms, and withal desired him to consult his own Interest. The *Mahometan* thereupon puts all things out of the way, and desired him to come as soon as he pleased, which the next Morning he did, and was gratified with a pair of old rusty Pistols, which the *Mahometan* pretended had formerly been his Fathers: our Searcher being so much a Knave as to take his Word for the rest. But a more narrow inspection being made into the business by an honest Marriner, he hath since informed our Council of Officers of the same (who still sit, pray God they may continue) who have thereupon issued forth an exprels Order to bring the Delinquent before them with all expedition, who doubtless will be sent to keep company with the rest of his fellow Criminals in the Ships hold.

Sir,



## [ 3 ]

*Sir*, This Business appeared with so foul a Face, That our Councill of Officers taking particular Notice of this Action, as well as of several others too tedious here to relate) made these several Proposals following; Resolving to second them with their Lives and Fortunes, as themselves have express; with their utmost Integrity and Affection: *viz.*

That they will assist our most beloved Royal CAPTAIN, as far as Fortune, Life and Estate goes, against the *Mahometans*, and that they will testify their readiness and hearty good will upon the first Occasion that offers,

That if any *Mahometan*, *Algerine* or other disaffected Person should but make an Attempt against our CAPTAIN: (tho' without Success) to do him prejudice, as well the Officers as the honest Marriners protest Solemnly they would not leave a Bone of the *Mahometans* or *Algerines* above board to report their Treachery.

Nay that which you can hardly believe, and we with Admiration hear; is this (to our unspeakable joy and Comfort be it spoken) That our Lieutenant shall be disabled from ever bearing a Captaines Command a-board this Ship; thus much as to our own Ship.

The *Lyon Rampant* (where our Lieutenant is a-Board) seems to be weary of their Officer, though they dare not scarce say so; yet by several Passages betwixt them and us we are apt to believe it. The Truth of it is, The Ship is a good Ship, pray God grant her as good Officers: as for the Captains Care it is beyond measure circumspect: Without doubt were our Lieutenant a man as careful for the Ships Good and Interest; the Sailors would not complain as now they doe.

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*Sir,*

IN my last I gave you a small Account of the *Golden Harp* (now in company with us) to say the Truth, I verily believe the *Algerines* designed first to lay her a-board by several Conjectures that I have not thought fit here to be mentioned: but

## [ 4 ]

me tell you. I know this from my own Experience, as well as from the Relation of several of our Officers a-board. That neither the *Mahometans* nor *Algerines* can do us the least Dammage unless our Council of Officers disagree (which God forbid) as yet they are unanimous, and for ought I know, will continue so: Our Captain resolving to dye in our Quarrel, rather than submit one Tittle to these *Mahometans*, encourages us beyond Expression: And if the Ships Company do not stand by Him with their Lives and Estates, never believe man more for my sake:

In a Word, The CAPTAIN, is so well belov'd on Board, 'Tis impossible for me to express it, unless I should write it in Characters with my Heart-blood: which I am ready now to do for our CAPTAIN and his Ships Company.

Sir, In my next expect a farther Account, from

Your Cordial friend (*in haste*)

J. B.

FINIS.

London, Printed for J. Davies. 1681.



AN  
ANSWER  
TO ANOTHER

Letter from Legorn,

To an Eminent Merchant in *Lond.* Octob. 29. 1680.

S I R,

I Received yours from Aboard the *Van-berring*, and doubtless there is no question to be made but the *Mabometans* and *Algerines* are as busie, not only of our great Ship the *Van-berring*, but of the *Lyon Rampant*, and the *Golden Harp* that attend her. You make me tremble to hear of the Contrivance which was among the *Mabometans*, to have blown up the Captain and his Council of Officers in the place it self, at what time both He and they should have been met together. We are not also ignorant how they would have Attack'd our single Vessel with a great *Armado*, having no other intention but to destroy and sink her.

These were their Villanous attempts some years ago. But to come closer to the point, as you well observe, it was but the other day, that they put fire to the great Cabin, and burnt it level with the water. And indeed it brought such a Consternation upon the honest Mariners, that had in all probability done their work, had they been as nimble to second, as they were to act.

A

As